



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,830	10/24/2003	Matt Calkins	224874	1490

38887 7590 06/30/2005

LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA, SUITE 4900
180 NORTH STETSON
CHICAGO, IL 60601-6780

EXAMINER

SANTIAGO, ENRIQUE L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2671

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/693,830

Applicant(s)

CALKINS ET AL.

Examiner

Enrique L. Santiago

Art Unit

2671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Comair et al. US patent no. 6,563,503 B1.

-Regarding claim 1, Comair et al. teaches an animation infrastructure supporting timed modification of element property values (see column 9, lines 23-26 and 34-39), the animation infrastructure comprising: an animation object class providing a time-varying value definition (see column 9, lines 23-49) and including an interface 658 (see fig. 18, column 15, lines 1-7) supporting designating: animation behavior properties (see fig 7, column 10, lines 18-36); timing properties (see fig 7, column 10, lines 18-33); a set of commands controlling the progression of the animation (see figs. 2A, 6 and 9, column 9, line 66-column 10, line 16); a set of events for providing notifications relating to the status of the animation object (see figs. 6, 9 and 18, column 11, lines 9-65).

-Regarding claim 2, Comair et al. teaches an animation infrastructure further comprising an animation collection object class providing a container for a set of animation objects created from the animation object class (see figs. 2-5, 14 and 15, column 8, lines 28-51), the animation collection object class including an interface (see fig. 17, column 13, line 63-column 14, line

Art Unit: 2671

22) supporting designating: animation collection properties (see column 14, line 61-column 15, line 7) defining: the set of animation objects within an animation collection object (see figs. 3-7, column 8, lines 27-51); a current status of the animation collection object (see fig. 2, column 4, lines 20-34); and animation collection methods for: configuring the set of animation objects within the animation collection object (see figs. 14 and 15, column 13, lines 11-45); and retrieving a current animation collection value derived from individual values provided by the set of animation objects (see figs. 6, 9 and 14, column 13, lines 11-45).

-Regarding claim 3, Comair et al. teaches an animation infrastructure further comprising a key frame object class for specifying a key frame property within an animation object, the key frame object class including: a set of properties enabling designating: a key spline; a key time; and a value (see fig. 15, column 13, lines 11-45).

-Regarding claim 4, Comair et al. teaches an animation infrastructure further comprising a key frame collection object class for specifying a set of key frame objects for specifying a sequence of frames within a timeline for an animation object (see fig. 15, column 13, lines 11-45).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comair et al.

US patent no. 6,563,503 B1.

Art Unit: 2671

-Regarding claims 5-9, Comair et al. does not directly teach an animation infrastructure wherein a float animation objects class provides a time changing floating-point value, a double animation objects class provides a time-changing double precision floating point value, a rectangle animation object class provides a time-changing top, left position of a defined rectangle, a color animation objects class provides a time-changing color value, and a Boolean animation class provides a time-changing Boolean value. However these functions are well known in the art, therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to use said functions in combination with Comair et al., because it allows for more accurate modeling of the real world (see column 2, lines 18-31).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US patent no. 6,621,431.

US patent no. 6,546,397 B1

US patent no. 6,522,333 B1

US patent no. 6,404,438 B1

US patent no. 6,369,821 B2

US patent no. 6,331,861 B1

US patent no. 6,256,048 B1

US patent no. 6,232,988 B1

US patent no. 5,946,002

US patent no. 5,416,899

Art Unit: 2671

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Enrique L Santiago whose telephone number is (571) 272-7648. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman whose telephone number is (571) 272-7653, can be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

703 872-9306 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to [Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor] (Receptionist).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Enrique L. Santiago

June 21, 2005



Kee M. Tung
Primary Examiner